

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL



GEORGE W. YORK,
Editor.

CHICAGO, ILL., DECEMBER 5, 1901.

FORTY-FIRST YEAR
No. 49.

WEEKLY

The Fence or the Ambulance—Which?

BY JOSEPH MALINS.

'Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely confessed,
Though to walk near its crest was so pleasant;

But over its terrible edge there had slipped
A duke, and full many a peasant:
So the people said something would have to be done,
But their projects did not at all tally.
Some said, "Put a fence round the edge of the cliff;"
Some, "An ambulance down in the valley."

But the cry for the ambulance carried the day,
For it spread through the neighboring city;
A fence may be useful or not, it is true,
But each heart became brimful of pity
For those who slipped over that dangerous cliff;
And the dwellers in highway and alley
Gave pounds or gave pence—not to put up a fence,
But an ambulance down in the valley.

"For the cliff's all right, if you're careful," they said;
"And if folks even slip and are dropping,
It isn't the slipping that hurts them so much
As the shock down below—when they're stopping."

So day after day, as these mishaps occurred,
Quick forth would these rescuers sally,
To pick up the victims who fell off the cliff,
With their ambulance down in the valley.

Then an old sage remarked, "It's a marvel to me
That people give far more attention
To repairing results than to stopping the cause.
When they'd much better aim at prevention.
Let us stop at its source all this mischief," cried he.

"Come, neighbors and friends, let us rally—
If the cliff we will fence we might almost dispense
With the ambulance down in the valley."

"Oh, he's a fanatic," the others rejoined;
"Dispense with the ambulance? Never!
He'd dispense with all charities, too, if he could;
No, no! We'll support them forever!
Aren't we picking folks up just as fast as they fall?
And shall this man dictate to us? Shall he?
Why should people of sense stop to put up a fence
While their ambulance works in the valley?"

But a sensible few, who are practical, too,
Will not bear with such nonsense much longer;
They believe that prevention is better than cure,
And their number will soon be the stronger.
Encourage them, then, with your purse, voice, and pen,
And (while other philanthropists dally)
They will scorn all pretence, and put a stout fence
On the cliff that hangs over the valley.

Better guide well the young than reclaim them when old,
For the voice of true wisdom is calling:
"To rescue the fallen is good, but 'tis best
To prevent other people from falling."
Better close up the source of temptation and crime
Than deliver from dungeon or galley;
Better put a strong fence round the top of the cliff,
Than an ambulance down in the valley!

—Selected.

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

GEORGE W. YORK & COMPANY

144 & 146 Erie St., Chicago, Ill.

Entered at the Post-Office at Chicago as Second-Class Mail-Matter.

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- To prevent the adulteration of honey.
- To prosecute dishonest honey-dealers.

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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

ESTABLISHED IN 1861 THE OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

41st YEAR.

CHICAGO, ILL., DECEMBER 5, 1901.

No. 49.

Editorial.

The Cry of Adulterated Honey, heard lately in Chicago, is bound to interfere somewhat with the sales of the pure article. The Daily Tribune, of this city, had the following in regard to the subject, in its issue of Nov. 15, introduced by a heading in large type, "Law Stops Bogus Honey:"

Glucose honey, under the attractive guise of "pure clover honey," is invading the Chicago markets to such an extent that the efforts of the State pure food inspectors are largely directed toward investigations of this imposition. One entire carload of "honey," consigned to J. Dawson, of the Western Brokerage Co., 42 River street, from a California firm, was barred from the markets yesterday except as a plainly labeled adulteration.

The analysis of the "honey" composing the consignment showed that it contained from 50 to 60 percent of glucose, and as "pure honey" the stuff was condemned. The consignee had the choice of selling it as a glucose mixture or of sending it back, and he chose the latter course, at the same time cancelling other orders which would have brought other large quantities of the glucose honey into Chicago.

HARM IS TO THE PURSE.

Unlike many of the adulterations which flood the market, the glucose honey is not regarded as an injurious mixture, and the Pure Food Commissioners affirm that the imposition on the purchaser is one which injures his pocket-book and not his health. The dealer has the right to sell the "honey" under the label of glucose mixture, and as such it is worth about one-fifth as much as real honey.

One complainant, Dr. A. J. Park, 520 East Fifth street, said:

"I know of no place in Chicago where one can purchase a pound of pure honey. I called the attention of my grocer to the fact that his tin cases of 'white clover honey' was manufactured stuff made up of glucose and paraffine. He at once called on his South Water street merchant and demanded that his money be refunded, or that the merchant disclose the name and place of the party from whom he got the mixture, but he declined."

Similar complaints have been received by the Pure Food Commission, and investigations have resulted in the preparation of a list of offenders against whom suit will be brought for violation of the pure-food laws.

HOW TO DETECT IMPOSITION.

Commissioner Jones said it was comparatively easy for a purchaser to detect the imposition.

"Genuine honey," he declared, "has brown coloring around the cells. Glucose honey is perfectly white. The purchaser can detect the fraud by this simple rule. Honey, butter, and vinegar are the three articles in the purchase of which citizens are most subject to imposition just at present, and they are

causing most of the work for the commission. Syrups may be classed with honey in this respect.

In the issue of the Tribune for Oct. 16 (the next day) appeared the cartoon which we reproduce herewith, and which only added insult to the injury done by publishing the interviews with Dr. Park and Commissioner Jones.

As soon as we could give attention to the matter, we wrote the following reply to the foregoing, and took it in person to the Tribune office, together with a beautiful section of white honey from our own apiary, and also a glass jar of the absolutely pure article:

CHICAGO, Nov. 19, 1901.

EDITOR THE TRIBUNE—

My Dear Sir:—I desire to call your attention, as well as that of your readers, to several matters that appeared in your esteemed

HOW DOETH THE LITTLE BUSY BEE—



He doesn't, as much as he used to

THE TRIBUNE'S LIBELOUS CARTOON.

paper last week. Quite unwittingly you did a great injustice to an honest and honorable industry—that of bee-keeping or honey-production. Being somewhat of a representative of the bee-keepers of this country, I deem it due my constituency, as well as due the general reading public, that I endeavor to correct so far as possible the misleading statements that were published.

First, permit me to say that bee-keepers as a class are most persistently opposed to the adulteration of honey; their representative periodicals also have done all in their power to aid not only the enactment but the active enforcement of laws intended to prohibit the adulteration of honey, or compelling the mixers of the combless article to label it according to its exact ingredients. Then if people desire to purchase and eat glucose

combined with honey, they "pay their money and takes their choice."

In the alleged interview with Mr. Jones, the Pure Food Commissioner of Illinois, as published, he is made to say:

"Genuine honey has a brown coloring around the cells. Glucose honey is perfectly white. The purchaser can detect the fraud by this simple rule."

Permit me to say that the above would be important if it were true. Unfortunately, or fortunately, there is no truth in it. First, much genuine comb honey is perfectly white in appearance; and, second, there is no glucose comb honey produced.

Again, Dr. A. J. Park, in the same item, is credited with this paragraph:

"I know of no place in Chicago where one can purchase a pound of pure honey. I called the attention of my grocer to the fact that his tin cases of 'white clover honey' was manufactured stuff made up of glucose and paraffine. He at once called on his South Water street merchant and demanded that his money be refunded, or that the merchant disclose the name and place of the party from whom he got the mixture, but he declined."

It is almost exasperating to one who is at all acquainted with the honey business to read such a paragraph as that. Of course, even doctors ought not to be supposed to know everything, and so Dr. Park perhaps should not be blamed for not knowing where in all Chicago he could get a pound of pure honey. But there are tons upon tons of absolutely pure honey in Chicago at almost any time of the year. I can take the innocent Doctor to see several carloads of the genuine article any time he will accompany me.

Dr. Park also conveys the idea that there is such a thing as manufactured comb honey—the comb made of paraffine and filled with glucose. I want to say that the Doctor has now an excellent opportunity to get a larger single fee than he ever has received, or will likely ever receive in the future if his medical knowledge is on a par with his information about pure honey. There has been an offer of \$1000 standing, but unclaimed, for 20 years, to any one who would find and present a single pound of comb honey which bees had no part in manufacturing. That offer is open yet, and I will personally guarantee that it is bonafide, or will make a similar offer. Now, gentlemen, either present that pound of manufactured comb honey, "or for ever after hold your peace" about it.

It is very unfortunate that the daily press does not seek its information concerning such matters from those who are in a position to know. It certainly would not go to a blacksmith to learn of the production of silk; then why should it accept the dictum of those who don't know a bee from housefly, when they desire information on honey-production?

I do not believe that The Tribune would willingly injure any honest industry, but in publishing such matters as I have referred to, and also the cartoon on "How doeth the little busy bee," in the Nov. 16th issue, it is placing before its readers untruths, and at the same time doing untold injury to the producers of genuine honey throughout the whole country.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE W. YORK,
Editor American Bee Journal.

As a result, a few days later the following appeared in The Tribune:

SAYS MUCH HONEY IS PURE.

EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL
TAKES EXCEPTIONS TO STORIES OF
ADULTERATION.

That the bee-keepers as a class are opposed to the adulteration of honey is averred by George W. York, who, as editor of the American Bee Journal, is in close touch with the industry. Mr. York declares that there is plenty of pure honey on sale in Chicago, and takes exceptions to statements that have been made by men who are supposed to know something about pure food. In a letter to The Tribune he says:

"The bee-keepers have done all in their power to aid not only the enactment but the active enforcement of laws intended to prohibit the adulteration of honey, or compelling the mixers of the combless article to label it according to its exact ingredients. In an interview Mr. Jones, the Pure Food Commissioner of Illinois, is made to say:

"Genuine honey has a brown coloring around the cells. Glucose honey is perfectly white. The purchaser can detect the fraud by this simple rule."

"This would be important if it were true. Unfortunately, or fortunately, there is no truth in it. First, much genuine honey is perfectly white in appearance; and, second, there is no glucose comb honey produced."

The carload of honey referred to in the first quotation from The Tribune, is extracted honey in tin cans. We looked it up both at the offices of the Pure Food Commission and the Western Brokerage Co., and found that the chemist of the former had discovered about 25 percent glucose in the sample submitted to them by the Western Brokerage Co., the latter firm having become suspicious of the honey. After hearing the result of the analysis, they reported it to the California firm from whom they bought it (in Oakland, we believe), and were holding the honey subject to the orders of the California firm, it being still in the car. We understand that the California firm declare it is pure honey, and that their representative is coming on to Chicago to prove it. He will likely have a hard job of it—if he comes.

We believe The Tribune, in publishing the statements credited to Dr. Park and Commissioner Jones, has done more damage to the cause of pure honey than it can remedy in a long, long time to come. Also, the cartoon, which pretends to illustrate how so-called "comb honey" is manufactured, is another unfortunate thing. Already, we hear that Chicago grocers are feeling the ill effects of the misleading reports and misstatements published by The Tribune, and their honey sales are diminishing accordingly. One dealer said that the falling off in the sales of pure honey would be at least 25 percent. While all lovers of truth and right will appreciate the slight correction which The Tribune published a few days later, it could hardly have done less, in justice to the honest people and industry which it misrepresented, than to have given in full the letter we wrote for publication.

It is exceedingly unfortunate that newspapers do not apply to those who are in a position to know the facts concerning technical matters. With all the bee-keepers living in and around Chicago, and of such easy access, there need never be anything misleading, or the least bit untrue, given in the public press concerning bees or honey-production. But it would not be quite so discouraging, if, when an error has been published, there would be shown some anxiety to have it corrected, so that the injustice could be righted as nearly as possible.

Let us hope that more care may be exercised hereafter on the part of those who think they must write or speak on subjects with which they are wholly unfamiliar.

The Buffalo Convention.

Report of the Proceedings of the Thirty-Second Annual
Convention of the National Bee-Keepers' Association,
held at Buffalo, New York,
Sept. 10, 11 and 12, 1901.

(Continued from page 759.)

CREATING A DEMAND FOR HONEY.

"How can a demand for honey be developed in a city where at present there is little or none consumed?"

Mr. Niver—I have been for six months now working up a demand for extracted honey in private families by house-to-house canvassing, and I must say that I am delighted with my success, by going direct to the family, sitting down and telling them how we get it; showing them pictures of our extractors, and taking along some foundation, and so on. Getting them interested in the bee-talk, I can sell them, perhaps, a pound, or ten pounds, and in about a month I go around again. I have found that there is a demand worked up that way which brings good results, and by going the third or fourth time I find that the demand is not diminished, but increased. People do not know that honey is the cheapest sauce that can be bought. Everything is very high in the line of sauce. Fruits are very high, and the working people feel that very severely. Now we are having boom times, and the most prosperous times known to this country, and the hardest times for a man to support his family on his wages that I have ever seen. By going direct to the people themselves, and teaching them about extracted honey, not comb—they look on comb honey as a luxury beyond their pockets. I have tried this method for six months and I have two or three different towns worked up. I find that the trade is growing in most towns, and in a little while we will get so that we can get our bulk honey into the groceries. We can not do it now. You can not sell honey in a bottle, with a nice label on it, for 25 cents a pound. You have to offer it at reasonable rates by the pound, and then you can sell it.

Mr. Cook—How many of those lectures could you give a day?

Mr. Niver—I don't know; I talk several hours a day.

Mr. McEvoy—What size of samples do you usually sell?

Mr. Niver—My method is to take along the honey in 10-pound cans. I go into the house with a quart milk-bottle and a teaspoon inside of it, and ask for a small dish to put some honey in; and I get them all in there eating honey, and I make them use their own spoons. While they are doing this I am explaining how we get it. I have been selling 8 pounds for a dollar, for fine white honey. The great majority of people get paid once a month; if you go just after pay-day you can sell a great deal more than you can before.

H. C. Ahlers—Would you kindly give

us figures of what you could sell in a day in that way?

Mr. Niver—I have sold 300 pounds in a day, and I have sold as low as 35 pounds in a day.

Mr. Ahlers—I sold a thousand pounds in two days, in 3-lb. Mason jars and 13-lb. pails; ten cents a lb. straight. If a groceryman wants my honey it is worth 10 cents a lb. I sell to private families for strictly cash, in Milwaukee and vicinity. I weigh in the pail. The pail costs \$11 a hundred, and I weigh the pail in. This gives me about 9½ to 10 cents for the pail. I lose about 1½ cents on the pail. I sell the honey in the Mason jars without the jar. I go to private families and keep a record of them. I know where I am going when I start. I take a thousand pounds along, and make the trip in two days. I sold 8,000 pounds in six trips, 2,000 pounds around home. I sold my own crop of 6,000 pounds, gathered from 37 colonies, and bought 2,000 lbs.

Mr. Howe—I feel sorry for a bee-keeper who produces honey and can't sell it. I can't produce enough to fill my orders.

J. H. Fuller—For the benefit of comb-honey men, I wish to say a word or two. I retail comb honey, and I retail from 100 to 300 lbs. a day in small towns in Cattaraugus County. I take it from house to house, the same as these gentlemen retail their extracted honey. I am getting 15 cents a lb. for No. 1 honey, and for dark honey all the way from 8 to 10 and 12 cents, according to the quality. I go on Tuesdays. Our pay-day is Monday, and I want to go when they have money.

W. L. Coggs—The wholesale price is retail; no trouble to sell that way.

Mr. Niver—I have heard a good deal said on what package we shall put our honey in, but I have got so that I believe I don't want any package at all. I prefer every time to have the lady produce her own package. She is sure it is clean, then.

Mr. Ahlers—Well, people offer me a package and they offer me butter-crocks. I live about 28 miles from Milwaukee. I would have to haul their butter-crocks. I allow them 10 cents for the pail.

Mr. Tyrrell—I would like to ask Mr. Niver what argument he uses to answer the question why extracted honey is cheaper than comb honey.

Mr. Niver—By showing the picture of the extractor and telling them that the bees build the comb only once, and we put it back and they fill it up again.

Mr. McEvoy—I think if every State in the union, and Canada, had some one going around in that way, talking to people, it would be a good thing.

Huber Root—For the past two months I have been seeing a great many people at the Pan-American Exposition, and I find eight out of ten of them imagine we mash the comb up and squeeze the honey out through a cheese-cloth; they know absolutely nothing about bees, or anything about the way extracted honey is secured.

Mr. Vinal—I think it is a good plan, but we are not all able to hire so smart a man as Mr. Coggshall is able to hire.

Mr. Tyrrell—It is true that not all of us are salesmen. The majority of people who produce honey are not capable of selling that honey by a house-to-house trade where we have to take up the time to explain how the honey is produced and why it is cheaper. The plan that I used was to put up my honey in suitable packages, then taking a circular which was just as brief as possible, explaining how the honey was produced—I would use say quart fruit-jars—and leave this package and circular, together with another small circular telling the people why I left it in this way. Ninety-nine out of 100 people, as soon as they step to the door and hear you have something to sell, say "No." I leave the package of honey and the circular, take the number of the house, tell them I will call again on a certain day, and pass on. Then I would go over the same territory a second time, and I found that if I left it long enough—perhaps a week—if they were honey users, they had sampled the honey, found it was good, and would pay for it.

Mr. Longnecker—I would like to ask if Mr. Tyrrell ever left a jar of honey at a place, and when he came again in a week and the honey hadn't been used and they didn't want it.

Mr. Tyrrell—I found there was only one place where anything like that ever occurred, and that was at the house of a lady where the honey had decreased perhaps an inch, and she said it had run over the top! That is the exception.

Udo Toepperwein—Do you label all your honey?

Mr. Tyrrell—Yes, sir, telling where it is produced.

Mr. Toepperwein—We label all our first-class honey, and get the groceries to sell it, and after the people get to use it it will speak for itself.

Mr. Vinal—I have had a little experience in selling comb honey, and my plan has been to put the honey in show-cases, properly labeled, and place it in the stores on the commission plan, and let them sell it at retail. I get 25 cents for it retail, and 20 cents at the stores.

SELLING HONEY THROUGH THE STORES.

"Would you sell honey through the stores?"

Dr. Mason—I think that has been answered already.

Mr. Toepperwein—If a person has plenty of time, I think they would do better to retail it.

Mr. Fuller—I wouldn't take it to the groceries, for this reason: I don't want groceries enough to pay for what honey I have. I would rather have some money, and most of the grocery-men in my section want me to take trade. If I want any trade I have no objection to selling them one or two cases of honey, but where I want the money, and don't want trade, then I retail it and get the money for it.

Mr. Niver—I would like to ask at what price he sells to the grocerymen.

Mr. Fuller—The same price—15 cents a pound.

Mr. Niver—And what do they sell it for?

Mr. Fuller—They make their profit on the goods they give me.

Mr. Niver—I have been a grocerymen for many years and you couldn't teach me that.

Mr. Fuller—You talk about the price of 15 cents being low; I can go to commission houses today and buy No. 1 white clover honey for 13 cents a pound.

Mr. York—I think it makes a great deal of difference where you are. I would by all means work through the groceries in large cities. Probably you couldn't do that in small country places, where there is only one or two groceries—there you'd have to sell from house to house.

Mr. Vinal—Speaking about the price of honey, I would like today to buy 500 lbs. of comb honey at 13 or 15 cents a lb. delivered at my place, for my trade at the stores. I would pay 15 cents a pound for 500 lbs. I can not get it in Boston.

Mr. Fuller—I would like to ask one more question of these gentlemen who retail their honey in the cities, whether they have any trouble with the authorities, whether they have to obtain a license to do their work, or whether they go on without being molested by anybody.

Mr. Ahlers—I am a bee-keeper, and I have a right, at least in Wisconsin, to sell my own produce. Now, I don't know if I have a right to buy the honey and sell it, but those questions are never asked. I have sold it to several policemen, who never asked me any questions, and I think there will be no trouble at all.

E. Granger—I have noticed one difficulty about retailing honey, and that is, there are so many bee-keepers who sell for the same price at retail as at wholesale. In the district where I live there are quite a few bee-keepers in a small way, and they generally run out of all the honey they have for sale, and then try to buy at wholesale, and find they cannot; it is all being sold at the same price, 1 lb. or 100 lbs. When I have sold out what little I have, and want to get more at wholesale, I cannot get it.

Mr. Miller—With us we have to protect the groceries. If I sell honey at 10 cents retail I must cut to the grocery trade, and I always protect them by that means. I still sell at retail, as much as possible, and at the present time I am getting 11 cents for my extracted honey, including the tins.

ARE QUEENS INJURED IN MAILING?

"Does it injure queens to send them by mail?"

Dr. Mason—Yes.

Mr. Benton—No. It does injure them if they are improperly packed; if well packed it does not, I believe.

Dr. Mason—I would agree with him, but I never saw one well packed yet.

J. M. Rankin—I think the danger to queens sent through the mail is about as great as that of a person traveling on a railroad, provided the bees are properly handled.

Fred Schmidt—Do you think they are properly handled today, the way

they are thrown out and kicked around? I do not.

Huber Root—I think the trouble is in the confinement in passage through the mail, and not particularly from the rough handling. You take a queen when she is laying well and shut her up for several days, and keep her right in the hive and she will not do so well after it.

W. W. Lathrop—Take queens and cage them properly, pack them, keep them a week, then liberate them and see if you can not notice a difference. I have tried quite a good many experiments. I was led to it from buying queens. My experience is that they do not lay so regularly. The combs will not fill so well. There are more "skippers," and she will begin to fail sooner.

Mr. Benton—I receive a great many queens from different countries, and often as far as the Island of Cyprus, and those queens were well packed. I prepared the cages myself, sent them there and gave careful instructions as to how the bees should be put into them, and in no instance have I been able to perceive that those queens that had been from 16 to 20 days in the mail sack, and traveled 6,000 miles, had been injured by that journey.

Mr. Gemmill—Aside from the packing don't you think that the caging of a queen a few days before she is shipped has a great deal to do with the safe delivery of the queen?

Mr. Benton—I don't practice that. One point has been brought up, that of throwing the mail-sacks from the train. In cases where I knew it was to be thrown from the train I enclosed the cage in a cloth-lined envelope, which would tend to protect the cage in case of a shock.

Mr. Fuller—What kind of a cage do you ship in?

Mr. Benton—It is a small, wooden cage with three holes in it—a cage which I invented some years ago. One end has the food compartment; the center compartment is a dark chamber with only indirect ventilation; at the other end is the ventilating chamber.

Mr. Fuller—How many bees do you place in there as an accompaniment?

Mr. Benton—From 10 to 20, according to the time of the journey.

Dr. Mason—One of two things is certain: The queens are injured in the mail, or else the queen-breeders send out poor queens. I have paid as high as \$8.00 for a queen and I would not give eight cents for it finally. Every last one of them—except one I got last year—proved to be poor.

Mr. Cook—There are hundreds of testimonies that they are good and they do produce good and prolific bees.

Dr. Mason—Yes, sir, I can give you one good one out of eight.

Mrs. Acklin—We not only send out queens through the mails, but we get in queens, and it is very seldom that we get one that is not all right.

BEES MOVING EGGS.

"Do bees move eggs from one cell to another?"

Mrs. Acklin—I think they do. I think they move an egg occasionally from one hive to another.

Mr. Gemmill—I am quite satisfied they move eggs from one cell to another.

MATING OF QUEENS.

"In queen-rearing, are the evils of in-breeding greater to mate father and daughter, or sister and brother?"

Dr. Miller—You are asking a question about which is the worse of two things, either of which is impossible. You cannot breed father and daughter, because the father is dead before any of his children are born. You can not mate sister and brother, for the drone has no sister except his mother. In this matter of breeding it is a matter of close blood you are considering, and whatever you may call them the queen is the daughter of her mother, and also the daughter of the drone with which the mother mated, but the drone is the son of his mother. Now if you say he has any father, it must be his grandfather. He has precisely the same blood as his mother. So when you are considering breeding in cattle the nearest that you can have is between brother and sister; and that near blood in this case is between the drone and his mother, so that if you take it in the sense that you are talking about other animals, the drone is the brother of his mother.

RED CLOVER QUEENS.

"Are the progeny of what are advertised as red clover queens better honey producers than the progeny of queens reared by other queen-breeders?"

Mr. Greiner—I notice that all queen-breeders today advertise the red clover queens; none have others.

LONG-TONGUED BEES.

"Are long-tongued bees desirable?"

Mr. Howe—As I sent Mr. Root a bee a while ago, and he sent me back word that she had as long a tongue as any he had measured that year, I would like to tell you the difference between that colony and common colonies. These bees with long tongues gathered honey when my black bees were starving to death. The black bees were really starving, and these bees weren't robbing.

SPELLING REFORM.

"Is reform spelling desirable in bee-keeping?"

Dr. Mason—Yes.

Mr. Ahlers—No.

Dr. Mason—Desirable everywhere.

SELECTING A HOME BEFORE SWARMING.

"Do bees ever select a home before swarming?"

Dr. Miller—Yes.

Mr. Callbreath—Sometimes; not always.

MATING WITH AN IMPURE DRONE.

"Does a pure-blooded queen become contaminated by mating with an impure drone, so that her drone progeny will be impure?"

Mr. Cook—No.

Mr. Benton—I don't think she does, practically. There are some very curious effects, but it seems to me that the question is open to a slight dispute. That is as far as I would go in it.

Dr. Mason—Now, the queen mates with the drone and secures what seminal fluid she wants for life, does she not?

Mr. Benton—Supposed to.

Dr. Mason—Can she keep up that supply without renewing it in any way,

so as to fertilize the thousands upon thousands of eggs that she lays.

Mr. Benton—I should suppose she might keep up that supply during a fairly long life, but, as we well know, that supply is often exhausted, and the queen is utterly exhausted and lays drone-eggs.

Dr. Mason—Then she doesn't in any way add to the supply of that seminal fluid from herself—no growth of it at all?

Mr. Benton—No, I don't think that is possible.

Dr. Mason—Then, if that is not possible, the progeny can not become contaminated in any way?

Mr. Benton—Except by the possibility of her having mated the second time.

Dr. Mason—Mr. Doolittle thinks that the queen does in some way add to her supply of the seminal fluid, so that she can keep that up; if she does, then may she not be making that impure?

Mr. Benton—I don't think impurity comes in that way. It is the presence in the system of this foreign substance—a substance derived from the male bee—which contaminates the blood of the queen-bee, and thereby the drones.

Dr. Mason—Now, will it do it?

Mr. Benton—That is the question that is unsettled.

BEE-SPACE OVER BROOD-FRAMES.

"Why should the top-bar of the brood-frame of the Langstroth hive be below the top of the edge of the hive instead of even with the top? Is there any advantage in having the bee-space on top of the frames in the brood-chamber, or under the frames, and have the bee-space on the under side of the super?"

D. H. Coggs—In extracting honey it is very essential to have a bee-space on top.

Dr. Mason—There certainly is an advantage in having the bee-space on top instead of the bottom. If there is no bee-space on the bottom, and you set the hive down with bees on the bottom of the frames, you are liable to crush them. In my hives I have the top of the frame even with the top of the hive.

John Fixter—We have both above and below, and I wouldn't have a hive in the yard that didn't have a bee-space above.

Mr. Betsinger—No hive is perfect by omitting a bee-space on top of the frames. If the space is omitted on top of the frames, and the same is added underneath the frames, where you use the two in connection, and when the season is good, and they are somewhat crowded, they will place burr-combs between the lower frames and the frames above. Now, in removing those frames, if the bee space is underneath the hive—not on top—then these burr-combs adhere to the ends. If the bee-space is omitted on top of the brood-chamber, and is put in the super, you are living under the same disadvantage—as you change supers from one hive to another those burr-combs must be removed.

The convention then adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The convention was called to order by Pres. Root.

CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Abbott—I have a matter I would like to present, and before I do that I would like to tell the members of this Association something that I think they ought to know. This room is occupied by a great many societies, and the janitor who looks after it said that you had been the cleanest set of people that he ever had anything to do with; that you didn't smoke, or chew, or make the room dirty, and I thought you ought to know it. You can see that it pays to be decent. I have here a recommendation of the Board of Directors which I wish to read. The directors present at this meeting recommend the following amendment to the constitution: "Art. IV., Sec. 1, to be changed to read as follows: 'The officers of this Association shall be a General Manager, a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Board of twelve directors, whose term of office shall be for four years, or until their successors are elected and qualify, except as provided in Sec. 2 of this Article.' " Now, the change in that Article is this: The present Article says the Board of Directors shall consist of the General Manager and twelve directors, making the General Manager a member of the Board of Directors. Now, our reason for wanting to make this change is that the General Manager is an employee of the Board of Directors, and we want to make it so that the Board of Directors will control him, and he will not be a member of the Board, and that gives the Board a chance to do what they are empowered to do in the next Article, which I will read.

Dr. Mason—That simply provides for removing the General Manager from the position of a Director.

Mr. Abbott—That is all. He continues as secretary of the Board and as General Manager. "To Sec. 8, of Art. V., add the following: 'And said Board of Directors shall have power to remove from office the General Manager for any cause they may deem sufficient, and fill the vacancy until the next annual election.' " Now, this amendment has no reference to the General Manager at present. It just provides for a contingency that might arise. It gives the Board power to say to him, We don't like this way of doing, and we will simply remove you until the next election. And then the members can elect a General Manager just as you have been electing him.

Moved by Dr. Mason, and seconded by Mr. Benton, that the convention endorse the recommendations made by the Board of Directors. Carried.

CARNIOLAN HIVE-ENDS, ETC.

Mr. Benton then exhibited some front ends of Carniolan hives which he stated had been in use many years, one of them since 1838. He spoke of the effect of the bees clustering in front of them, they making no impression on the board where it was painted, showing that they were unable to grasp smooth surfaces, such as the smooth surface of fruit. He further said: These hives open at the rear end, and in Carniola their plan is to feed highly and stimulate until the time for swarming comes, and get them in condition for the buckwheat harvest. Probably

19-20 of the bees in Carniola are in box-hives.

Mr. McEvoy—How is the yield of honey?

Mr. Benton—Very good, indeed. There are miles and miles of buckwheat. In extracting the honey, they first put it in a sack, comb and all, and then subject it to great pressure. Of course, it is "strained" honey, and contains quantities of pollen. It is excellent bee-food, though. It stimulates brood-rearing more rapidly than the feeding of sugar.

Mr. Barb—If they were to save their bees, would the country have too many?

Mr. Benton—I don't think they would. They take out their weakest colonies. Foul-broody colonies are almost sure to be taken out.

Mr. McEvoy—What are their winters like?

Mr. Benton—Very long and severe. I saw the mercury once 20 degrees below zero, and very deep snow in most of the province. It is elevated from one to ten thousand feet above the sea level. It is quite cold in October, and very cold in November, and it lasts until March and April, with a very long, cold spring following away into May. The percentage of loss of bees in the

winter is quite small, and spring dwindling is a thing almost unknown. The winds sometimes change very suddenly, bringing a thick fog down into the valleys, and thousands of the flying bees are killed then, but, notwithstanding that, the colonies are so prolific that they revive very quickly. During the buckwheat harvest the same thing occurs. I have sometimes seen all of the working force of a colony wiped away in a single hour, and thereby the hope of any future yield of surplus honey during that harvest was entirely precluded.

(Continued next week.)

Contributed Articles.

Gathering Not in Proportion to Length of Tongue.

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

DURING the spring and early summer of 1901 quite a little was written regarding the high gathering qualities of bees having long tongues, and many advertisements were inserted in our bee-papers, holding out inducements to purchasers, prominent among which was long tongues, as the bees having such were the ones which secured the greatest yields of honey; and especially so in districts where the red clover was grown by the farmer for hay and pasturage for his flocks.

At that time I did not dream that I should have any chance to know for myself of the correctness of this long-tongue matter, for nearly a score of years had elapsed since red clover bloomed or gave seed in these parts, owing to a very small weevil, called a "midge," working in the head of the clover just before the blossoms were to open, this causing the blossoms, while in the bud, to blast, so that not one bud in a million came to perfection. But the past season, from some cause or other, the "midge" seemed to be absent, and before I was hardly aware of it, my eyes beheld hundreds of acres becoming red with the bloom of red clover.

And at about the same time the weather became hot and favorable for honey-secretion, so that by June 20 we had a yield of honey on, second to none that I had ever known at that time of the year. In fact, the flow of nectar was nearly, if not quite, as great as any I had ever known from basswood when at its best, except that the nectar is always thinner from clover than from basswood. And this flow of nectar from clover continued, in varying degree, clear through the basswood yield and up to August 1, thus helping greatly to finish up and complete nearly all the partly finished sections remaining at the close of the basswood bloom. As a result, I obtained (together with what was secured from buckwheat, which gave only a light flow) the largest average yield, from colonies not robbed for queen-rearing, of any ever obtained during the 32 years I have kept bees, namely: an average of 176 pounds of section honey per colony at the out-apiary, and 180 pounds here in the home yard.

In the home yard I had two colonies close to each other, one being headed by a queen from my original honey-gathering stock, and the other by a very fine-looking queen procured by way of exchange, during 1900, from a bee-keeper in Iowa. These colonies were as nearly alike as to outward appearances in early spring as two peas, but as the season advanced the brood in the colony having the Iowa queen outstripped that from the other by thousands of cells, till I began to think I had a prize in this new queen; but when the season closed I found that I had from the colony headed by the queen of my rearing, 261 completed one-pound sections, 21 partly filled, and 42 pounds in the brood-chamber; while the colony having the Iowa queen gave only 44 poorly filled sections, none partly filled, and had only 12 pounds in the hive October 1, so that they had to be fed 13 pounds for wintering.

Remembering that I had seen somewhere in the bee-papers that if we would be fair in testing this long-tongue matter, bees from the colony giving the poorest yield of honey should be sent as well as those from the one giving the greatest yield, I bethought myself to send a dozen of these bees,

(from each colony) to Prof. Gillette, of the Colorado Agricultural College, as he had asked for bees to measure, through the columns of the American Bee Journal, and I accordingly did so. When Mr. Gillette reported he gave as the average of "Lot 1" (from my queen) 25.4; and of "Lot 2" (from the Iowa queen) 25.6, the same being in hundredths of an inch. So it will be seen that the colony giving less than one-sixth the yield of the other, really had the longest tongues.

Both colonies were managed as nearly alike as could possibly be done, up to about the first of July, when the Iowa bees began to swarm, and kept it up more or less, all through ten days of the best part of the harvest. They were not susceptible to the management of the apiarist as were the others, but with the honey harvest they went to an excess in breeding, and used up the honey which they gathered in breeding a superfluous number of workers which took to swarming rather than to honey-gathering, and thus the season was frittered away to little advantage to the apiarist.

My observation has been the same this year as in years past, that the bee which is the most susceptible to the management of the apiarist, so that a maximum amount of bees can be brought on the stage of action, with little, if any, desire to swarm, just at the commencement of the honey harvest, with as few bees at all other times as is consistent with this object, is the bee which rolls up the honey to the account of the apiarist every time.

But I hear some one saying that the length of the tongues of these bees varied only two-tenths of a hundredth of an inch, anyway. This is right, and from considerable correspondence of late I am led to believe that Italian bees from various parts of the country, and from colonies that gather little or much honey, all have tongues of practically the same length. Had the tongues of Italian bees from colonies giving the poorest yields of honey been measured on the start, instead of offering prizes for the longest tongues which gathered the most honey, more real facts would have come to light, with less of public deception.

It is always well to go a little slow until assured of the ground upon which we stand, lest some one may be deceived by statements which are made prematurely; the same being premature through our not having investigated till we have gotten at the bottom facts in the case.

Onondago Co., N. Y.

A Short Report—Selling Honey too Cheaply, Etc.

BY MRS. L. HARRISON.

OUR honey is all taken off, and put away nicely (Oct. 28), and I estimate that there is a supply for two families, from our apiary of 40 colonies. Our apiary, prior to this decade of poor seasons, numbered 125 colonies, but the losses each succeeding winter were more than the summer's increase; and this is the condition of apiaries generally in this part of the State.

A grocer who advertises largely announced lately that he had some fine honey of this year's production, which he was selling at 15 cents per pound. Honey was worth 20 cents, but he had a chance to buy 250 pounds cheap, and his customers should have the benefit of it.

When there is a short crop of corn or potatoes, the price goes up, and why should not honey? No fine comb honey should be sold for less than 20 or 25 cents per pound at retail. There has been a steady decrease in the number of colonies, and a less secretion of nectar than formerly.

I think that there are more sources for honey in the city, per acre, than in the country. At almost every home a few flowers are cultivated; lawns are sprinkled frequently with a

hose attached to hydrants, and the modest white clover dots the green. Porches are shaded with Columbine or Maderia vines, which are favorites with bees; there are beds of portulaca, mignonette and other flowers. The city parks have much bloom, and sweet clover, both white and yellow, have pre-empted all unoccupied land. A failure of fall honey has never been reported in this locality.

PREPARING BEES FOR WINTER.

I get everything ready beforehand. I use new sheets of Indian-head muslin every year; tear it up so large that it will extend over the edges of the hive, so that when the cap is shut down upon it, it is utterly impossible for a bee to get up into the cap. I pick off all ravellings, iron them smooth, and pile them up on a board. I gather baskets of dry maple leaves. When all was ready, on one of our quiet October days, I uncovered the bees, put a Hill's device upon the combs, spread over the sheet, and set on the cap or upper story, poured in a good bed of leaves, and a chaff cushion above them; then the cover with a piece of section between it and the cap, thus making a little crack, so that fresh air will circulate above the packing. This was all done so quietly that the bees were not disturbed, and no smoke was necessary. The chaff cushions have been in use a good many years, so I put in leaves, as chaff is not handy to get.

The hives were all heavy with well-ripened, sealed honey, gathered from sweet clover, goldenrod, Spanish-needles, bone-set, polygonum, and other wild and cultivated flowers.

MULBERRIES.

One year the last of April, I visited the navy yard at Pensacola, Fla., and while there gathered a handful of ripe white mulberries; they were very rich, and so juicy and sweet that they made my fingers sticky. A friend, who was a missionary many years in Turkey, says that in that country they press out the juice, boil it down into a syrup, and call it "honey." The residue—skins and seeds—they dry, and keep to feed their donkeys during the winter.

Peoria Co., Ill.

Questions and Answers.

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.

[The Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal office, or to Dr. Miller direct, when he will answer them here. Please do not ask the Doctor to send answers by mail.—EDITOR.]

Feeding Bees for Winter Stores.

I got caught in that cold spell, and one colony is short of stores; that is, it has a little over eight pounds of unsealed syrup.

1. Will that unsealed syrup cause trouble?
2. How can I make sugar candy? I made some last winter, but it was so hard the bees could not take it. I made it according to the books.
3. How much candy should I give that colony to carry it through the winter? That is, how many pounds of sugar should I make into candy?
4. Are four Langstroth frames full of honey enough to winter a strong colony?
5. Are forest leaves a good, warm packing?

MINNESOTA.

ANSWERS—1. There is some danger of it, especially if it was fed late. There will be less danger of trouble in the cellar than outdoors.

2. I doubt being able to tell you any better than the books. Two kinds are given, Scholz or Good candy, which is perhaps the better kind, being a stiff dough made by kneading extracted honey into sugar; and the old kind made by evaporating sugar syrup. It is quite possible that your candy was all right. No matter what kind of candy you have, the bees in winter are not likely to take it unless it is very easily within reach. See that the candy is directly over the cluster, or else that it is in a frame hung close beside the cluster so as to touch the bees.

3. Having already 8 lbs. of syrup, 22 lbs. of candy will do for a full colony.

4. Yes, if by "full" you mean bulged out from top to

bottom and sealed out to the lower corners. But as you are likely to find them in the brood-chamber, six or eight would be nearer the mark.

5. Yes, if dry, they are excellent.

Various Questions.

1. Will Italian queens reared from a thoroughbred mother mated to a black drone produce as good honey-gatherers as if mated to an Italian drone?

2. Does it take more honey to winter a colony of Italians than a colony of blacks?

3. Do queens lay during the night?

4. Do the worker-bees work in the hive at night, such as build comb, feeding larvae, etc.?

5. About how much honey does it take to winter a colony of bees in this latitude? Our bees usually start to swarming here about the first of April, if the spring is not late.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

ANSWERS—1. Sometimes they will, and sometimes not. The first cross are generally good, but after that the improvement generally goes backward.

2. You will probably find no difference, if you compare 100 colonies of Italians with 100 colonies of blacks of equal strength. You will find considerable variation, however, in single colonies, whether yellow or black.

3. Yes, indeed.

4. Yes, indeed.

5. I don't know, but I think it is not safe to have a colony go into winter quarters with less than about 30 pounds, unless you expect to feed them in the spring before flowers appear. If I am wrong in this I wish some South Carolinian would correct me?

* The Afterthought. *

The "Old Reliable" seen through New and Unreliable Glasses.
By E. E. HASTY, Sta. B Rural, Toledo, O.

DR. STRICKLAND NOT FOR "MELT-OSE."

I hasten to make amends for a particularly atrocious meanness of my blundering pen. Dr. Strickland was not acting as the friend of meltose when he sent a sample to the office. More care in reading up the whole thing should have shown me that. I heedlessly, though sincerely, located him on the wrong side of the fence and went on. Monkey at the lever of a 100 H. P. machine is capable of mischief, is he not? Page 611.

THOSE TWIN BRIDES.

Compliments to those twin brides and their grooms on page 721. Doubtless the boys themselves (on a slight inspection) can tell the brides apart. If the rest of the world makes a mistake occasionally, why, that doesn't signify.

FIXING UP OTHER PEOPLE'S LANGUAGE.

And so Dr. Miller wants Prof. Cook and myself to settle matters between us. Might as well ask Kitty and Towser to settle their differences by a little private confab in the back yard! I just keep getting madder and madder all the time. It's just monstrous the way Prof. Pharaoh Cook is trying to compel 100,000,000 people to make bricks without straw! All who speak the English tongue come in contact with certain familiar objects. They have to call them something. Not one in a hundred of all these people can tell which is worm and which is larva—haven't the entomological knowledge required to do it. But here comes Pharaoh and says, "You must, or I'll take your dirty, ignorant lives!" Leastwise, if he doesn't put it as badly as that, he is on the road in that direction—"I'll brand you as disgraceful perverters of the English tongue." If it was only one case, and entomology was the only science extant, we might think of yielding just for the sake of peace in the family. But science has a hundred branches (going to be); and nobody is, or possibly can be, familiar with all; but all, I fear, will have Prof. Cooks that will be emboldened to make similar demands of us, if we do not stand for our rights. Suppose a few hundred astronomers should insist that the entire English public leave off saying "shooting stars" and say "bolides." And what a supreme

as a geologist would make of himself trying to make everybody use the term "rock" precisely as he uses it! Call out the police and the ambulance, Dear Boss; I'm going to throw the imposing stone!

In some things the rich man has more rights than the poor man; and the learned man has more rights than the unlearned. That may sound shocking to some, but I will grant it freely. *But*—the right to have a language to express his ideas—a language in which he *can* express his ideas, without distress, and without annoyance, and without being called a fool—that does not by any means go with the above. That's one of the inalienable rights of man, like "life, liberty, etc." When it comes to that, the college professor is only 1 divided by 100,000,000—same as all the rest of us. He can take his chances with the language as the millions make it; or he can have a private dialect for his own little company—either one; but he can't impose his little dialect on the millions—too big a dog for so small a tail to wag. It would, indeed, be nice if everybody knew everything, and used terms in accordance with his knowledge; but I honestly think it might be well to accept less for awhile. And possibly the command to "Condescend to men of low estate" may reach even to the campus where hats are seen with mortar-board tops. Pages 730 and 698.

UNCAPPING AND RENDERING.

Quite an idea, that of J. B. Hall's—have the basket of the uncapping-can fit the solar wax-extractor also, and render the wax at once. But I, for one, hardly believe that shading the lower dish will prevent the sun from spoiling the honey. Page 660.

FLOWERS INTOXICATING AND HOLDING BEES.

When only few and rare plants were accused of holding bees by some sort of intoxicant the case sounded stronger than it does now that the attempt is made to accuse the bass-wood of the same thing. "Don't believe fish-story, too, now," is the frame our minds incline to take. Without much assurance, I rather think that all that the visible facts show is that bees will sometimes "board around" among the flowers. So doing, they save the honey which would be used if they took their meals at home. This, of course, when there is nothing on the range from which a load can be secured. If it is found that some bees spree it while others are bringing loads rapidly, that, I suppose, would be fatal to my suggestion. There is no intoxicant—nothing but smell—when they spend hours at the screens of the honey-house. May it not be that flowers hold them by smell alone, sometimes? Page 661.

* The Home Circle. *

Conducted by Prof. A. J. Cook, Claremont, Calif.

THE COW.

Is any home circle quite complete without the cow? I would never consent to be without this important adjunct in every home. In this day of food adulteration it is hard to know just what we are eating, but if we have our own cow, and do our own milking, we may be pretty sure on this point.

We are very fond of milk at our house, and none of us complain if a good proportion is richest cream. I take great pleasure in my glass or bowl of milk, and, I believe, as much in seeing the other members of the family as they quaff this pure and unobjectionable beverage. We are certain that in milk there are no impurities. In it, too, we get perhaps as balanced a ration as we can obtain anywhere. It is Nature's own concoction. We never grew so fast as when in our babyhood. Then milk was our exclusive diet. I suppose in milk we have just about the right amount of sugar which has no taint of glucose in it; just the proper proportion of fat, which is certainly one of the most appetizing and wholesome of all the varieties of oleaginous material; and in the casein or cheese of the milk we have enough and most wholesome albuminoid.

I also like to take care of my own cow and to do my own milking. So many people are content to keep their cows covered with filth, and are so scrupulously careful not to brush or clean them as they commence to draw the milk, that I find it not at all agreeable to patronize the milkman.

My cow must be as neat and clean as my driving horse, and I would not think of commencing to milk until the cow was absolutely clean in all the region about the udder. A private dairyman, whom I know, gets the creamery price for his butter. When asked why, at one of our Farmers' Institutes, he said, "I never milk without thoroughly brushing, and, if necessary at all, thoroughly washing the cows, all about the udders." Neither would I have any one milk my cow who would wet the teats before or during the milking. Wet milking and neatness never ride in the same carriage.

We have just secured a new cow. Five of us—nearest neighbors—share in the milk. Four families own the cow and share equally the expense and the profit. As I have said before, I think such partnership among nearest neighbors tends to harmony, and has more to recommend it than simple economy. Our new cow gives us nearly 20 quarts of milk a day. She does a good lot of eating. I like to see her eat. Of course, she must eat or she could not give us so liberally of her very substance. Where do we have a better example of real, personal sacrifice than we see in the cow? I fancy our cow has a sort of a benignant look in her very eyes. Mrs. Cook remarked only a few minutes ago, "How kindly our cow looks at us; and what a pretty face she has." I bethought me, "Why not? If any one has earned a right to look kindly it is surely one who gives herself, as does our cow, to add to the pleasure and happiness of others."

Our cow has been giving milk only a few days. The springing into action of the great milk-glands has made the udder tender, so that as I draw the milk the parts are irritated, and she raises her foot, often many times, when I am milking, and not always in gentlest fashion. There are two ways to meet this not wholly agreeable condition of things. I could use my boot or stool, and possibly she might be cowed into quietness. No doubt in doing this, even though I did succeed in quieting her, I should do it at the sacrifice of milk. Rough treatment or unkind words and a full flow of milk never go together. Many times, generally, I think I would fail to check the uneasiness, and if my cow was of nervous temperament, it would very likely ruin her.

The other course is to milk very gently, and perhaps very slowly, and thus not hurt even the sensitive milk-glands. I hardly need say that this is the way that I have proceeded, and I am very happy to state that it has worked like a charm. I am sure, too, that I am getting the full yield of milk, and just as sure that I am in no danger of ruining the cow.

I wonder if we all realize that we are never violent with our animals, especially with our cows, except at a great loss. We hardly realize how delicately sensitive our cows are to any disturbance. A large dairyman told me a few days since that he never changed his cows from one pasture to another without losing several pails of milk; and this even though he put them in a better pasture. The disturbance attending the change was what reduced the milk flow. The dog, the milk-stool, and the boot too often bring the same result.

Apropos to the above is the too common habit of pounding a cow because she does not "give down" her milk. The philosophy of yielding or withholding the milk is this: The milk is in very numerous small tubes, which are thickly set in muscular tissue. These small muscles are of the unstriated type, and are entirely beyond the control of the will. Thus, we are absolutely sure that the cow has no direct control of the matter. Rough treatment, which will produce a nervous shock, may effect to press the milk down into the teats. It will just as likely act the other way, and we have made a bad matter worse, and done a beastly, mean thing. In all such cases stooling or kicking are strictly in order; but the cow should not be the recipient.

CATS AND DOGS.

I don't mean cats and dogs in the sense of "scraps" in the home. Oh! that parents who suffer ill-will, fault-finding, family-jars to invade the sacred precincts of the home could realize their terrible mistake! They are bequeathing a frightful legacy to the precious ones entrusted to their care. Divorce has always seemed to me one of the blackest pages in our social history. Separation between the chief partners of the home circle is nearly as bad. Yet, I quite agree with Mrs. Wells, in the October North American Review, "The daily spectacle of a discordant home is worse for the child than the known separation of its parents." Cats and dogs, then, as used to designate fierce word-battles, where word-fights have no business, is not my theme—I mean real cats and dogs.

We have two tiger cats. We all like them, and if purring is a sign of contentment—and who can doubt it?—then our cats are not pining for a new home. No one would wonder at this, if he should see the great basin of freshest, sweetest milk that I give them twice daily, as I come always attended by them from barn to house. In fact, they always watch me as I milk. So I have to be neat and particular, as I am always watched. My wife and daughter insist on this full milk ration. I suppose they are right in thinking nothing too good for our cats. I often hint to them that if I ever do get jealous of those cats it will surely not be without provocation.

One of these cats is a beauty. He is as boldly striped as a veritable tiger. Everybody praises "Toots." "He is such a beauty." Toddles is more plain in garb. Few visitors discourse on his handsome fur cloak. I smile to see how Mrs. Cook and daughter take his part, and warm up as they portray his good points. These cats are treasures. Mice used to run riot in the barn, and took too generous toll from hay and meal bag. Now I never see any mice except as Toots or Toddles come to show me one that specially pleases them, and, like well brought up cats, wish to share the pleasure with me.

Even a better use than this is the pleasure they give the dear ones of our home circle. It is good for us to lavish attention and care even on a feline member of the family. And I am sure that loving them insures more love to those of the household more deserving of love. Neither do our cats disturb any one of our neighbors. Indeed, they are fondly petted by all.

I don't feel so about dogs. I wouldn't have one. They do not catch mice, and are only valuable as pets. And are

they not too often a nuisance to all the neighbors? No hour of night is sacred against their vociferous yelps. And how few are too well bred to pitch wildly out at the passing carriage or equestrian? Unless we can get real gentlemen dogs—and they are rare in California—let us replace every dog on the place with a good, handsome cat.

DIVORCE THE LAWN AND TREES AND SHRUBS.

What are so exquisitely graceful as date-palms—the Phoenix canariensis? They are great, living fountains of finest green. A neighbor had one right on the lawn. It had no business there. An open lawn is too beautiful a feature of the landscape to be invaded even by handsomest tree or shrub. Again, the grass seems to have learned this, and proceeds at once, upon occasion, to throttle the very life from any invader. Thus it was that this date-palm was yellow and sickly. Why, my date-palm, almost near enough to shake hands with the other, grew more in three years than did that one in more than double the time. The grass wished the water and the fertility, and took it, and the poor palm could only turn yellow—not green—with envy.

A new neighbor has purchased the place. As the palm was on the edge of the lawn, or to one side, she dugged about it and put the too-greedy grass-blades to route. And, presto! the palm doesn't look like the same plant at all. The sickly yellow is replaced with brightest green, and it has grown more in one short year than in several long previous ones. It just laughs now, and were it not that its strong roots had gotten such a hold, I veritably believe it would dance.

Let us all keep trees and shrubs away from the lawns.

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The Bee in Law.

Bees are *feræ naturæ*, i. e., wild by nature, and classed with such wild animals as have what is called *animus revertendi*, or a usual habit of returning whence they have escaped. During this temporary absence they remain the property of the original owner (2 Kent, Com. 348). The law, as Blackstone says, "extends this possession further than the mere manual occupation; for my tame hawk that is pursuing his quarry in my presence, though he is at liberty to go where he pleases, is nevertheless my property; for he hath *animus revertendi*. So are my pigeons, and bees that are flying at a distance from their home, and likewise the deer that is chased out of my park or forest, and is instantly pursued by the keeper or forester; all which remain still in my possession, and I still preserve my qualified property in them. But if they stray without my knowledge, and do not return in the usual manner, it is then lawful for the stranger to take them" (2 Blackstone, Com. 392).

So, in the civil law, Gaius says: "In respect of such animals as are in the habit of going and returning, as pigeons and bees and deer, which are accustomed to go into the woods and fields and come again, we have this traditional rule: That if they cease to have the intention of returning they also cease to be ours, and become the property of the first taker; now they appear to cease to have the *animus revertendi* when they have discontinued their habit of returning. This theory may be compared to the rights of property in animals at common law only when *animus revertendi* is induced by artificial means, such as taming them or offering them food and shelter, but not to immigrating animals which return from natural causes. The highest authority is that the only ownership in them is *ratione soli*. In consideration of the fact that the character of the forest allows every freeman to be entitled to the honey found within his own woods, affords great countenance to the doctrine that a qualified property may be had in bees in consideration

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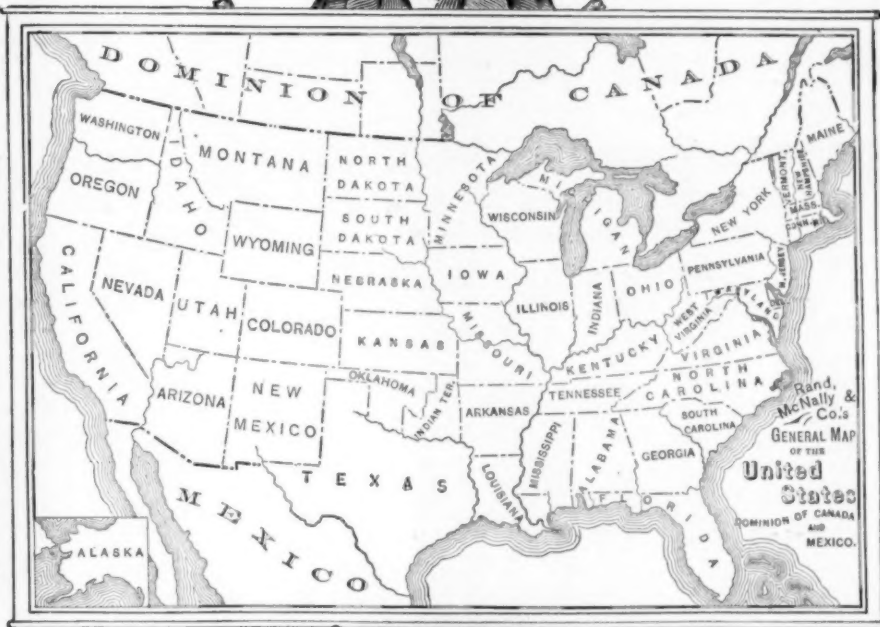
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of the property of the soil whereon they are found."

IDENTITY.

One of the chief difficulties in reclaiming bees is in the almost impossible identification thereof. Many curious cases of doubtful or disputed identity might be cited to illustrate the singular fortuous resemblance between bees, not only in their general appearance, but also in the strain or accidental mark. Positive recognition of peculiar habits and working of bees is too difficult to suffice to prove their identity. Courts judicially recognize photography as a proper means of identification of the thing in dispute; but there is no case or record, so far as we have been able to discover, where a claimant has been able to reclaim his bees by means of photography. Neither can bees be identified or proven by the concurrence of their several characteristics. This proof is too remote, and the question of identity is for the jury. The court can not presume identity of bees.

TRANSPORTATION OF BEES; CONTRACT OF CARRIAGE

The exact character of the contract for the carriage of animals has been the subject of much judicial discussion. The prevailing opinion, however, is that common carriers are also insurers against all losses except those resulting from the acts of God or the public enemy, or from the peculiar nature of the property carried. Though it may be optional with railway companies whether they will accept the full responsibility of transporting bees, yet if they do so without any express restriction, they are liable as common carriers. But they may, for a less hire, agree simply to transport bees, furnish cars, etc.; and if the shipper and owner of the bees agrees to the lower rate, he can not hold them as common carriers. For a given reward they proffer to become his carrier; for a less reward they proffer to furnish the necessary means that the owner of the bees may be his own carrier (*Kimbal vs. Ry. Co.*, 26 Vt., 247). In the case of *Birby v. Deemar*, 54 Fed. R., 718, the United States court held that, when a vessel struck a hidden obstruction and filled with water, and a cabin containing bees floated to the shore, but no effort was made by the master to use care in saving them, the steamboat line was held liable for damages to them, though the vessel was insured and was abandoned to the underwriters as a total loss.

BEES THE SUBJECT OF LARCENY.

Bees in the possession of the owner are the subjects of larceny, says the Indiana Supreme Court in *State v. Murphy*, 8 Blackf., 498. Further, the court holds that, when bees are in the possession of any person, they are the subject of larceny. Much depends upon what constitutes possession. Generally it is



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regarded that the owner of the soil upon which the bees may be found is the possessor thereof. While the rights to animals *ferre natura*, as between the owner of the soil and others, have been fairly settled by a considerable series of cases, the relative rights of parties, both of whom acknowledge the superior rights of the owner of the soil, seem never to have been precisely described. But in a recent Rhode Island case (*Reeroth v. Coon* 15 R. I. 35), the plaintiff, without permission, placed a hive of bees upon the land of a third person. The defendant, also a trespasser, removed the bees and honey which had collected in the hive. The court found that there was no cause of action, holding that neither plaintiff nor defendant had any title or right to possession to the bees or to the honey. It needs scarcely follow that a trespasser can not maintain, on the basis of mere possession, an action against a later trespasser. There may be some possible doubt in a case of this kind where a person has reduced the bees to possession by collecting the bees in a hive, and left them temporarily on the land or another; and if so it would seem to give him actual physical possession sufficient for an action against one who removed them. But about the honey which the bees had collected while on the soil of a third person, there would be less doubt; but, strange to say, in no case which we have examined does the question seem to have been discussed, much less decided, as to how far the law of animals and bees, *ferre natura* applies to their produce, such as eggs or honey. The reason on which the law about the animals is founded is wholly inapplicable to the honey; but the Rhode Island case tacitly assumes that no distinction is to be drawn. Hence, as a dictum, it would appear that the honey, at least, belonged to the owner of the soil.

Bees are likened unto wild animals belonging to no one so long as they are in their wild state, and property in them is acquired by occupancy, hiving, and reclaiming only, and are not the subject of larceny unless they are in the owner's custody, as in a hive, beehouse, or otherwise confined, and within the control of the possessor or owner.—R. D. FISHER, in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*.



Fair Honey Crop.

In our locality we have very changeable weather in winter—from extremely cold to warm. We seldom have over one week that bees do not fly, if left on the summer stands. There has always been a question in my mind whether it would be an advantage to winter bees in a cellar under such conditions or not. Our honey crop was fair the latter part of the season. Bee-keepers in this locality do not read bee-papers; one reported foul brood, which, on inquiry, proved to be brood in the suppers. C. W. SNYDER.

Garfield Co., Utah, Nov. 20.

Bees Worked on Strawberries.

I was very busy the past summer, in fact, I believe I never worked harder in my life; but it has been a good year for me. I had \$500 worth of strawberries, and they were nice, big ones, and fine flavored—should have liked a visit from you in June. My bees did fairly well, but I did not have time to attend to them at the proper time. My best colony filled 10 frames and 55 sections. I doubled up two colonies in 10-frame dovetailed hives, put two supers between, and after reducing them for winter I tried to weigh the hive, but my scales weigh only 60 pounds, and I put a brick on for a weight besides, and as this would not weigh them I think they are all right for winter. My lightest colony weighs 47 pounds, being the only colony my scales will weigh, so I do not think I will have to feed for this winter. Basswood bloomed very

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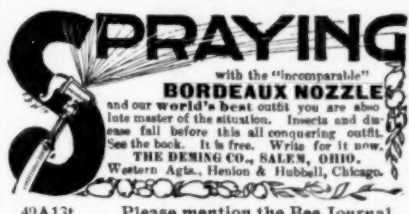
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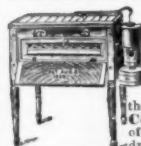
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profusely this year, but the bees did not look at it. They worked on the strawberries for the first time this year. LEWIS LAMKIN, Woodbury Co., Iowa, Oct. 28.

The National Association.

I am a bee-keeper, fruit-grower and farmer. I have about 20 colonies of bees, and so far have succeeded, with the help of the "Old Reliable," to sell a few hundred pounds of nice comb honey every year, besides having it on the table at every meal, as my family and I are very fond of it. I have sold all my honey the last few years to the same store-keeper for 12½ cents per pound, and next year's crop is ordered before this year's is sold.

Now for a question: Would the National Bee-Keepers' Association protect and help a member if he were swindled by a commission man to whom he had sold his farm products, such as apples, prunes, etc., the same as when he is swindled out of a shipment of honey? I have had no trouble so far, but I think precaution is better than cure.

A. F. FLUCKIGER.

Lewis Co., Wash., Nov. 17.

[Yes, we think the Association would do all it could for its members to get justice in such a case, though honey-deals are its speciality.—EDITOR.]

Hoping for a Good Wetting.

Although I am well advanced in years, and, unfortunately, an invalid, I manage to attend to my little apiary. With severe losses and extra labor-cost during the past drouth, feeding, and fighting bee-diseases, etc., I am still "in it," and expect to stay with it, with the American Bee Journal as a welcome visitor and guide.

The first rain of the approaching winter season fell here Oct. 27, and again Nov. 9 and 11, and we are all hoping for a good wetting about the coming holidays. I am wintering my bees on the summer stands, but, as a precaution on account of the high altitude and occasional cold snaps, they are packed a little warmer.

GUSTAV VOSS.

Riverside Co., Calif., Nov. 16.

A Report—Red Clover.

My bees did fairly well the past season, averaging from 25 to 55 two-pound sections of nice comb honey per colony, spring count. I started the season with 24 colonies, increasing to 36, and two swarms left for the woods. I have sold nearly all my honey in the home market. My bees worked on red clover as much as on the white. Clover is in good condition this fall—we are getting plenty of rain, and things are booming. I would like some of the "wise heads" to tell me if red clover yields nectar every year. My experience says not, here in Iowa; or is it locality?

Page Co., Iowa, Nov. 12. JERRY SCOTT.

Poor Prospect for White Clover.

I do not know what we will do for honey next year, as the white clover has been killed by the drouth. No. 1 honey here is worth 15 cents per pound by the case. I sold all I had at that price. I had no swarms to speak of this year. I hive the swarm on the old stand, and remove the old colony to a new location at once, the swarm catching all the field-bees; by putting the super from the old colony on the new I have it full of honey in a few days, if the flow is good. Bees went into winter quarters in good condition this fall. Although I can not agree with it in everything, I do not see how I could get along without the American Bee Journal. J. M. MOYLE.

Cass Co., Mo., Nov. 17.

Favors the Honey-Extractor.

The honey-extractor is an article little used by farmer bee-keepers and many others who keep but a few colonies. Yet a good extractor is one of the very necessary things every bee-keeper should have, even if he has

but a half-dozen colonies. In most apiaries there are some colonies that will produce little or no honey if run for comb exclusively. Some colonies seem determined not to work in sections. If such colonies were at once given plenty of extracting-combs they would commence filling them immediately, and prove much more profitable than if compelled to work in sections. "Locality" may "play its part" in this case, as it does in many other instances. In many rural districts, where but few bees are kept, and where there are no large producers, extracted honey brings nearly or quite as much as comb—these are the places where the honey-extractor should be doing duty. If our large producers could get nearly as much for extracted as for comb honey, I don't think they would do very much puttering with sections.

Hampshire Co., Mass. A. E. WILLCUTT.

CONVENTION NOTICES.

Vermont.—The State Horticultural Society and the Vermont Bee-Keepers' Association, will hold a joint meeting at Vergennes, Dec. 17 and 18 1901. M. F. CRAM, Sec.
W. Brookfield, Vt.

New York.—There will be a bee-keepers' convention (annual) held in Canandaigua, N. Y., by the Ontario Co. N. Y., Bee-Keepers' Association, Dec. 12 and 13, 1901.
Naples, N. Y. FRIEDEMANN GREINER, Sec.

Michigan.—The Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Association will meet in convention at Petoskey, Jan. 1 and 2, 1902. This promises to be the most largely attended meeting of the Association in years. You are invited to attend. Reduced rates on all railroads; tickets can be bought Dec. 30 and Jan. 1, good to return not later than Jan. 4. There will be no set program, but another of our "open congress" meetings. Those who have attended in the past know what that means, and those that don't should come and find out. A novel design for badge has been ordered in honor of "Petoskey."
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HONEY AND BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Honey is selling fairly well at about the prices that have prevailed for the last 2 months, viz: choice grades of white comb honey, 14½@15c; good to No. 1, 14c; and light amber, 13c, with darker grades, 10@12c. Extracted, white, 5½@7c; amber, 5¼@5½c, according to quality, flavor and package. Beeswax good demand at 28c.

R. A. BURNETT & CO.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 25.—The honey market is rather dull on account of the warm weather. Extracted sells only to manufacturers from 5@6c; better grades alfalfa water-white from 6@7c; white clover from 8@9c. Fancy white comb honey sells from 13¼@15¼c.

C. H. W. WEBER.

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 25.—Honey in good demand now, as this is the most satisfactory time to sell. Grocersmen are stocking up and will buy lines, when late they only buy enough to piece out. Fancy white comb, 15@16c; mixed, 14@15c; buckwheat, 12@13c. Extracted, white, 6½@7½c; mixed, 6@6½c.

H. R. WRIGHT.

OMAHA, Oct. 25.—New comb honey is arriving by express in small quantities from Iowa and Colorado, and selling at \$3.50 per case in a retail way. California extracted honey is being offered carlots at 4¼@4½c per pound, f.o.b. California shipping-points, but we have not heard of any sales having been made thus far. The production of extracted honey seems to be quite large this year in Colorado, Utah and California.

PEYCKE BROS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 8.—Comb honey is in good demand, and while the market is not overstocked, receipts are sufficient to supply the demand. Fancy white sells at 15c, with an occasional sale at 16c for attractive lots; No. 1, white, at 14c; No. 2, at 13c; fancy buckwheat, 11@11½c; No. 1 and 2 at from 10@10½c. Extracted remains quiet at from 6@6½c for white, and 5¼@5½c for amber. Very little demand for dark at 5¼@5½c. Beeswax quiet at from 27@28c.

HILDEBRATH & SEIGLER.

BOSTON, Nov. 20.—The demand for honey is easing up, somewhat due in part to the holiday season at which time it is much neglected.

Our market at the present time runs 16c for strictly fancy in cartons; No. 1, 14@15c; No. 2, 12½@13c. Extracted, light amber, 7¼@8¼c; amber, 7c.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

DES MOINES, Oct. 25.—There is very little doing here in new crop of honey. Some small lots of near-by produced comb honey are on the market and selling in a retail way at \$3.50 to \$3.75 per case. We do not look for much trade in this line before Sept. 1. Our market does not consume a great deal of extracted honey.

PEYCKE BROS. & CHANEY.

DETROIT, Oct. 25.—Fancy white comb honey, 14@15c; No. 1, 13@14c; no dark to quote. Extracted, white, 6@7c. Beeswax, 25@26c.

M. H. HUNT & SON.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 13.—White comb, 10@12 cents; amber, 7@9c; dark, 6@7 cents. Extracted, white, 5¼@—; light amber, 4¼@—; amber, 4@—.

Market is moderately firm at prevailing values, which remain quotable about the same as a week ago. There is considerable doing, both on foreign and local account. A shipment of 1,000 cases extracted went forward the past week per sailing vessel for England. A steamer took 107 cases for Holland.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 25.—Up to the present time only small lots of new comb honey have been on the market, and these met with ready sale on the basis of 15@16c per pound for fancy white. For next week heavier receipts are expected and quotations are issued at \$3.10@3.25 per case for large lots, which would be equal to about 14@14½c; the demand being quite brisk, a firm market is anticipated. Inquiries for extracted are a little more numerous, but large buyers still seem to have their ideas too low. In a small way 5¼@6c is quotable.

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